(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the staff has been deprived of the statutory interest rates on Provident Fund and is yet to be covered by the deposit linked insurance scheme and family pension and the institute does not take into account the dearness allowance (DA) or the additional dearness allowance in their calculation of employers' contribution to the Provident Fund;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted to the alleged support of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner to the violation of Provident Fund rules by the Institute; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha separately.

AIR Darbhanga

2318. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of the transmitter of All India Radio Darbhanga station has ever been increased since it was opened;

((b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to increase the capacity of the station;

(d) whether Government proposed to start news bulletin in Maithili language from AIR Darbhanga; and

(e) if so, the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TIWARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The 7th Plan does not contain any proposal to increase the capacity of the radio station at Darbhanga.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Legislation for the disabled

2319. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a legislation for the disabled;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce this Bill in the current session of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDERA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) to (c) The Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Baharul Islam in 1987 to suggest legislation for the welfare of handicapped submitted its report to the Government in June 1988. The Committee in its report had suggested certain constitutional amendments, reservation in employment both in the public and private sector, vocational training institutions, special provisions for mentally retarded, certain miscellaneous provisions including fiscal concessions and special pay to the teachers etc. The Committee also suggested that the legislation should provide for access facilities to be provided for the disabled in the public buildings etc.

The report of the Committee is under consideration in consultation with

various concerned Ministries/Departregarding implementation of the recommendations.

Objectives of Agro-service Centres

2320. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Agro-Service Centres established in the country from 1971-72 till date;

(b) the objects for which these centres were equipped for;

(c) whether all of these Agro-Service Centres are running successfully; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) 3036.

(b) The objectives of Agro Service Centres were: custom hiring of agricultural machinery, repairs and maintenance of agricultural machinery including irrigation equipments; and supply of agricultural inputs like fertilisers, seeds, spare parts for farm machinery and tools.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The reasons for some of the Centres not doing well were low turnover, reliance on one activity, mainly of custom hiring of tractors, and poor management.

Recommendations of the Revenue Ministers' Conference

2321. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what were the specific recommendations of the Revenue Ministers Conference held in May, 1985 and confirmed in November, 1986;

(b) which are the State Governments having already implemented the recommendations; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure implementation of the recommendations throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Among the items of consensus emerging from Revenue Ministers Conference held in May, 1985 which were also reiterated in the Conference held in November, 1986 the important ones relate to bringing oral/ informal tenants and share-croppers on record and confering ownership right on them, stricter definition of 'personal cultivation', strengthening of legal provisions and administrative arrangements for checking alienation of tribal land, stricter implementation of ceiling laws and other measures to have more land for distribution, setting up of special tribunals under Article 323-B of the Constitution for disposal of ceiling cases pending in High Courts, modernisation and updating of land records, etc.

(b) Land being a State subject under the Constitution, the responsibility for initiating necessary action in pursuance of various points contained in the consensus rests with the States. However, the response from States in respect of follow up action pertaining to consensus has not been very satisfactory so far.

(c) A programme of action focussing on improving the access of rural poor to land is proposed to be taken up in consultation with States. The items being considered for inclusion in this programme are also those recommended by the Revenue Ministers such as bringing oral/informal tenants on record, verification of possession in respect of SC/ST allottees of surplus ceiling and other lands, providing